



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

**Southwest District Office**

40 South Main Street  
Dayton, Ohio 45402-2086  
(513) 285-6357  
FAX (513) 285-6249

US EPA RECORDS CENTER REGION 5



George V. Voinovich  
Governor

May 22, 1991

RE: Carstab Corporation  
Reading, Ohio  
Hamilton County  
ID #ODH000723138

Mr. Mark Dunnigan  
Ecology & Environment  
111 West Jackson Blvd.  
Chicago, Illinois 60604

Dear Mr. Dunnigan:

In response to your request for information regarding past work at the Carstab Corporation (the Company) in Hamilton County, Reading, Ohio, I have discovered the following in Ohio Environmental Protection Agency's (Ohio EPA's) Division of Emergency and Remedial Response files.

Ohio EPA first became interested in Carstab Corp. as a result of inspections of neighboring facilities and after discovery of a major leachate seep into Mill Creek in 1979 (Reference 1). On July 30, 1980 a meeting was held between Ohio EPA personnel and Company officials. The Ohio EPA requested that Carstab Corporation hire a hydrogeologic consulting firm to determine the extent of contamination and a method of controlling and/or removing it (Reference 2). As a result of this directive, PEDCo Environmental, Inc. was hired to prepare a study proposal (submitted October, 1980). PEDCo installed ten (10) groundwater monitoring wells in December, 1980 (see attached map). A subcontractor, H. C. Nutting, Co. installed four (4) additional monitoring wells in January, 1981.

Following the investigatory work associated with the installation of the above-mentioned wells, there ensued a legal "battle" between the Ohio EPA and the Company. After several attempts to obtain data results from Carstab, Findings and Orders (F&Os) were issued against the Company (December 1, 1982). These were revoked in a second set of F&Os (January 12, 1983) after the Company agreed to meet the requests of the Ohio EPA and supply the investigatory results. After reviewing the data and determining that a problem existed at the Carstab site, alternatives for remediation were considered. This resulted in a ground water treatment pilot plant being installed in early 1984. Construction was to begin on the french drain/slurry wall system

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in December, 1984, with final design by March, 1985. The unit was expected to be fully operational by May, 1985 (Reference 3). There was no further correspondence to indicate the actual start-up date of the system.

In summary, Carstab Corporation was not under Findings and Orders when they originally agreed to perform, at the request of the Ohio EPA, an investigation of the contamination at their facility. The Ohio EPA was concerned enough and involved enough with this site to maintain control over the proceedings. When it became apparent that the Company was not willing to cooperate, the Ohio EPA took the necessary steps to ensure action against the immediate threat posed by the contamination (i.e., issuing F&Os).

I have no further information regarding ownership of the facility beyond what we have already discussed. I hope the information I've provided you with is of help to you. If I can be of further service, please call me at 513-285-6065.

Sincerely,

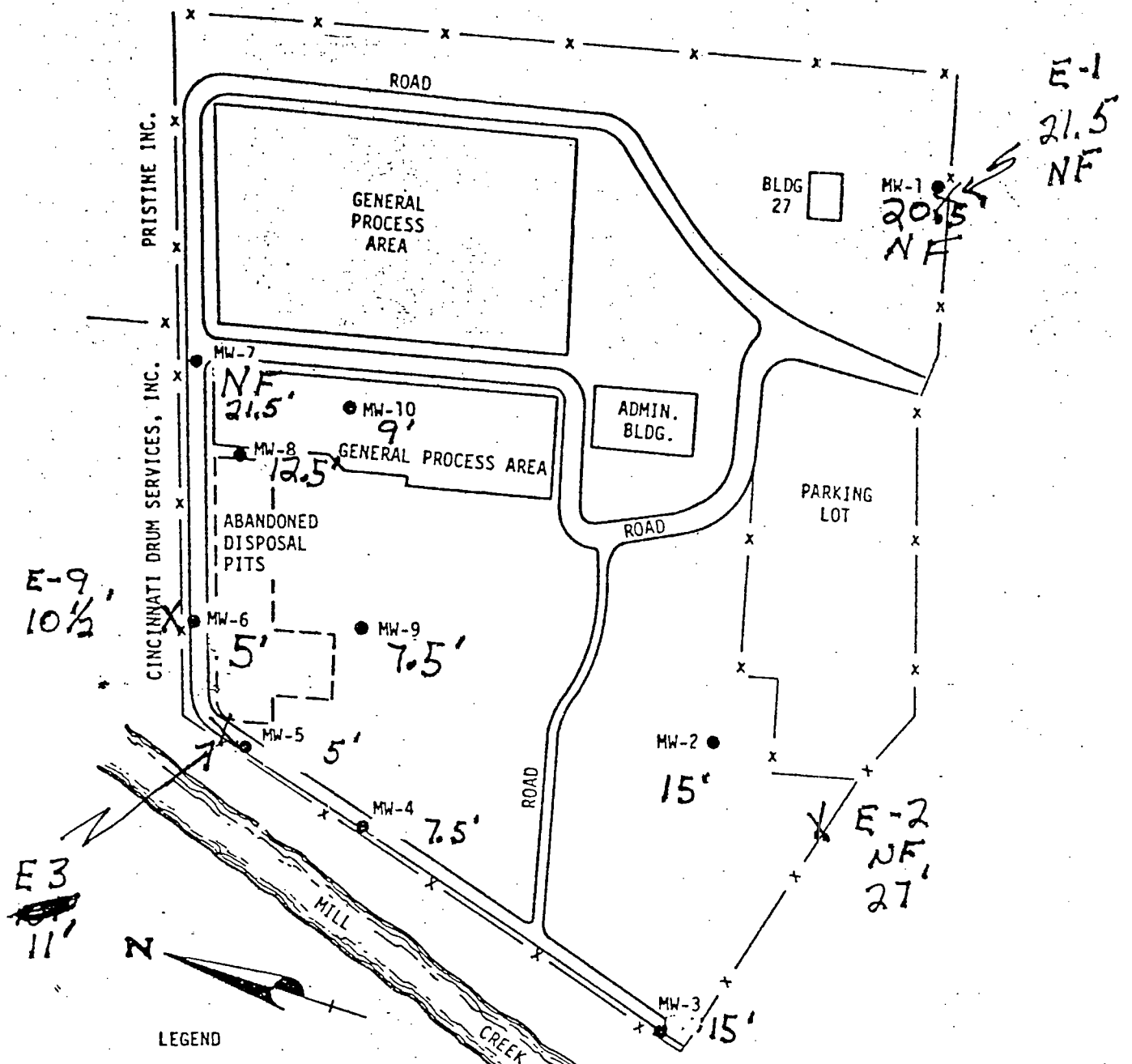
A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Amy F. Gibbons".

Amy F. Gibbons  
Division of Emergency and Remedial Response

cc: Jeanne Griffen, USEPA, Region V, (5HSM-12)  
Mark Besel, DERR/CO

#### REFERENCES

- 1) Hydrogeologic Report of Pristine - Cincinnati Drum - Carstab Site in Reading Ohio, Ecology and Environment, November 1982.
- 2) Correspondence (IOC), to Jim Guthrie Deputy Director of Enforcement from Tom Ontko, Hazardous Materials Management, Ohio EPA, October 20, 1980.
- 3) Correspondence, to Ben Pfefferle, Ohio EPA Legal from Robert C. Witman, Vice President and Technical Director for Morton Thiokol, November 30, 1984.



dug by Peedco Inc. in December, 1980  
 (E)  
 x Monitoring well dug by H.C. Nutting, January, 1981  
 - CARSTAB -

NF indicates no black odorous substance found - ~~Depth~~ Total depth of well